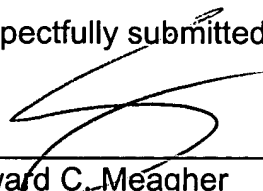


## **REMARKS**

With respect to the Examiner's non-statutory double patenting rejection of claims 1-14 as being unpatentable over claims 1-17 of U.S. Patent No. 6,726,686 to Buysse et al., Applicants have included a TERMINAL DISCLAIMER TO OBVIATE A DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION OVER A PRIOR PATENT which disclaims the terminal portion of the statutory term of any patent granted on the present application which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term of U.S. Patent No. 6,726,686. The Assignee of the instant application namely, Sherwood Services AG, owns 100% interest in the present application and the above mentioned U.S. Patent No. 6,726,686. It is respectfully submitted that the enclosed terminal disclaimer should obviate the Examiner's rejection with respect to claims 1-14.

In view of the foregoing, it is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the claims of the application as presented, namely, claims 1-14, are patentably distinguishable over the cited prior art references and the other prior art references of record.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Edward C. Meagher  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 41,189

**CARTER, DELUCA, FARRELL & SCHMIDT, LLP**  
445 Broad Hollow Road – Suite 225  
Melville, New York 11747  
(631) 501-5708  
(631) 501-3526